NEWS FROM ED MARKEY

United States Congress

Massachusetts Seventh District

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE March 5, 2003 www.house.gov/markey

CONTACT: or Israel Klein Katharine Reinhalter (202) 225-2836

MARKEY RESOLUTION HONORING VISITING NURSES PASSES HOUSE

Washington D.C.: Today the House of Representatives passed legislation offered by Representative Edward J. Markey (D-MA), joined by Representative John Peterson (R-PA), establishing an annual National Visiting Nurse Association Week during the second week of May. House Concurrent Resolution 54 passed the House with unanimous support from both sides of the aisle (411-0).

Rep. Markey stated, "This resolution is our way of saying 'Thank you' to our Visiting Nurse Associations around the country. In their work, in their philosophy of nursing, they teach us every day about human kindness, the strength of human character and the true definition of what it means to care. We thank them for their sharp minds, their watchful eyes, their loving hands, their nerves of steel, and of course their hearts of gold."

"Visiting Nurse Associations of today are founded on the principle that the sick, the disabled, and the elderly benefit most from healthcare when it is offered in their own homes. They are non-profit home health agencies that provide cost-effective and compassionate home and community-based health care to individuals, regardless of their condition or ability to pay for services. Through these exceptional organizations, 90,000 clinicians dedicate their lives to bringing healthcare into the homes of over 4 million Americans every year. In the face of rising costs and drastic changes in our health care system, visiting nurse associations have continued to deliver high quality health services for over 120 years."

"In recognition of the hard work and dedication that Visiting Nurse Associations bring to the nursing profession and the comfort and quality care that they provide to patients, I proud to sponsor this resolution to set aside one week each year to recognize and honor visiting nurses across the country."

You may go to www.house.gov/markey for more information on this and other subjects.

± # #